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The chapters in which he describes life in Rome in old days—the days of artists, foreigners, beggars, bad drainage, fevers, continual festivals, picturesque if somewhat senescent customs, loose morals—have particular charm. The historian proper will find also trustworthy information on taxes and economic conditions; on the censorship; on the French occupation of the capital and the Austrian occupation of the Legations; on the many efforts made, first by Cavour and afterwards by Ricasoli, to reach a peaceful solution of the Roman Question. Here, too, is an informal narrative of the Ecumenical Council; and among the topics described mention should be made of the account of the kidnapping of the Mortara boy. Nowhere else has that crucial case been treated so exhaustively as by Dr. De Cesare in his original Italian work; the translation, though much condensed, gives the truth in a nutshell.

In general, the translation, which measures less than a half of the original, has been made with an eye to the interests of English-speaking readers. Much that is local, much that is merely curious or antiquarian, has been omitted. The result is a remarkably readable book, and one which no student of papal methods and tendencies since 1850 can afford to pass by. The Italian contains also many reprints of fugitive or surreptitious pieces, with inedited letters, which, for lack of archival documents, may well be regarded as original sources. But the final value of the book as a contribution to history rests upon Dr. De Cesare's talent for collecting, absorbing, digesting, and then of setting forth clearly and honestly the testimony of witnesses of all parties. A reader familiar with the period will not be surprised to learn that Marquis Visconti-Venosta and the late Count Nigra were among his informers.

The translation has been made by Miss Helen Zimmern; and Mr. G. M. Trevelyan contributes in a short preface a statement of the Italian situation between 1850 and 1870.

WILLIAM ROSCOE THAYER.

The Birth of Modern Italy. Posthumous Papers of JESSIE WHITE MARIO. Edited, with Introduction, Notes, and Epilogue, by the Duke LITTA-VISCONTI-ARESE. (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons; London: T. Fisher Unwin. 1909. Pp. xxvii, 354.)

THE late Signora Mario, though an English woman, had the singular fortune to be the chosen biographer of several of the leaders of the Party of Action in the Risorgimento. She wrote lives of Mazzini, Garibaldi, Bertani, and Nicotera, and she edited, with biographical sketches, the writings of Cattaneo and of her husband, Alberto Mario. Although she was in no sense a detached or objective historian, she made her books indispensable to the student of that period, first by interspersing them with many letters and documents otherwise inac-

cessible; next by revealing the inside point of view; and finally by kindling in her pages that enthusiasm which was one of the important psychological factors in the struggle for Italian unification. No reader can be led astray by her subjectivity; but we should lose much if we could not look through it at the men and events she describes. Works like hers, however, are peculiarly hard to review in short compass; because, while it would be possible to contradict many of her statements by an appeal to facts, we should not by so doing destroy the real value of her books—which lies precisely in reproducing the state of mind in which she and her great companions saw or interpreted those facts.

This posthumous volume, which Duke Litta has put together with much skill, consists really of a biography of Mazzini as far as 1854; then Signora Mario's personal reminiscences begin, and they are interwoven with a general account of Italian affairs down to Garibaldi's visit to England in 1864. In the latter part of the book, Garibaldi is the hero, as Mazzini is in the earlier. Especially rich in personal details are the chapters dealing with Mazzini's first political attempts and with his exile in London. His habits, simple and austere as a hermit's, his methods of directing his vast network of secret conspiracy, and his relations with the Carlyles, the Ashursts, and other English friends, have not hitherto been so sympathetically described in English. Signora Mario, as was to be expected, absolves him from the charges of abetting assassination, of sending zealous disciples on doomed expeditions, and of promoting a chimerical propaganda. Her account of the Bandiera affair and of the action of the British Post-Office in opening Mazzini's letters is unusually exhaustive. Naturally enough, she denies that Mazzini brought discord to Milan in 1848, because, from her standpoint, it was always the persons who opposed him who introduced discord.

One of the typical chapters is that devoted to the Sapri Expedition—which so closely resembles in intent and moral effect John Brown's raid on Harper's Ferry. She speaks here from her own knowledge, because this was the first Mazzinian enterprise in which she took part; and her testimony must always have due weight; but she fails to appreciate the position of the Piedmontese government, and consequently she unjustly abuses Cavour. So her criticism of Cavour's acts, except his alliance with Garibaldi in 1859, is generally as harsh as that of thorough-going Abolitionists on Lincoln. She is quite wrong, for instance, in asserting that Cavour might with impunity have refused to cede Nice and Savoy, "as England would have awakened in time" (p. 293). But she does him justice after his death; for she declares that "had Cavour lived there would have been no Aspromonte and no Mentana, nor would he have signed that fatal 'Convention of September'" (p. 311).

Garibaldi's Sicilian Expedition of 1860 is passed over briefly; there are some picturesque details of his wounding at Aspromonte and a few

side-lights on his English triumph and sudden departure from London in 1864. Scattered through the volume we find many extracts from letters. Rightly used—as one uses the personal memoirs of actors in great historic affairs, discounting their temperament—this posthumous book must be prized by historians, who have ample means for correcting its misstatements. In no other work in English are the Mazzinians and their Garibaldian allies painted with so much lifelikeness or defended with equal loyalty and charm. It is unnecessary to call attention to the misprints, of which there are many, but mention ought to be made of the illustrations, which include a large number of portraits and such a document as Garibaldi's death sentence. Duke Litta furnishes a sympathetic biographical sketch of Signora Mario.

WILLIAM ROSCOE THAYER.

Österreichs innere Geschichte von 1848 bis 1907. Von RICHARD CHARMATZ. Volume II. *Der Kampf der Nationen.* (Leipzig: B. G. Teubner. 1909. Pp. 176.)

IN the April number of this journal (pp. 586–588) we attempted to crystallize the inner-Austrian constitutional history since the revolution of 1848 until 1878 under the leadership of the Germans. The above booklet tries to evolve the successful racial struggle of the Slavs and the Latins against German supremacy. Magyar history, since the compromise (*Ausgleich*) of 1867, which constituted the Dual Monarchy, is touched upon only so far as it affects vitally the very existence of Austria through a severe crisis, involving almost a breaking point, up to the rearrangement of the relations between both states during the ministry of Baron Beck. The inner struggle of the Magyar masters with their contending races, Germans, Serbo-Croats, Roumanians, would require an historical interpretation of its own fully as kaleidoscopic as that of Austria.

Charmatz covers in an extremely succinct way the great work by Gustav Kolmer, *Parliament und Verfassung in Oesterreich* (5 vols., Wien und Leipzig, Carl Fromme), with the difference that while the latter is very pessimistic as to the outcome of the racial *bellum omnium contra omnes*, the former sees no blind raging in the conflagration kindled by a dozen different nationalities, but a painful, toilsome progress influenced by great thoughts. This agrees with Ranke's historical maxim, "dass, von den kleinlich-verwerflichen Absichten zwar berührt, aber nicht beherrscht, zuletzt doch die grossen Motive entscheiden."

Thus Austria is not tottering, Austria is slowly rising. A constitutional conflict of sixty years made it possible to remove the old feudal state, shake off the yoke of absolutism, at least according to the letter of the law, to make the constitutional principles of democracy the recognized, if not always and everywhere enforced, law of the monarchy, and to lead the Austrian nationalities towards autonomy. Unfortu-